X137 The plant was uncommon along the route of the expedition although it has a wide distribution from the northern Cape and the Transvaal through the Bechuanaland Protectorate to South West Africa and Southern and Northern Rhodesia.

[262] The fruits are edible. They have a sour taste and a strong aroma and little more than that for they consist mainly of the skin and the stone.

[263] The leaves are sometimes used by the Bushmen for flavouring meat.

Ziziphus mucronata Willd. (4873, 5202) Photograph 28.

!hɔ: Bushman.....	!e:i
!ganakwe Bushman...	ǂhaja
ǂgikwe Bushman.....	ǂk"erɔ
Naron Bushman.....	ǂk"aru
Eastern !khũ Bushman	ˌnǂa:

A semi-deciduous shrub or tree up to 12 feet high, twiggy and profusely branched, with the older branches drooping at the ends to give it a rounded shape. As a rule it is very thorny, with the thorns in pairs, of which one is hooked and the other straight. Thornless specimens have been reported, but are rare, and none were seen along the route of the expedition. The plant has alternate dark green shiny toothed leaves, tapering to a point at the tip and with three or four prominent veins branching from near a rounded base. They are stalked, and glabrous or nearly so. The flowers are in small greenish clusters and are not conspicuous. The fruits are ripe in early winter, but the trees bear sporadically and the crop varies greatly in quantity in individual trees. The fruit is brown and a third of an inch in diameter, with a shiny brown papery skin surrounding a thin layer of rather dry, mealy substance and a large stone.

This tree is widespread from the Sudan to the Cape Province. It was uncommon on the deep Kalahari sand but fairly frequent in the hard soil round the edges of the pans, where it sometimes formed open communities.

[262] The mealy substance in the fruits is sweetish and is eaten by the Bushmen, but it is not pleasant even by their standards.

Grewia avellana Hiern (4959, 5269) Photograph 29.

!hɔ: Bushman.....	nǃɔǂudi
!ganakwe Bushman...	nǃɔǂudi
ǂgikwe Bushman.....	ǂgam-tsa
Naron Bushman.....	dʒudʒubu
Eastern !khũ Bushman	dzwa:ma and zɔ:ma

Because of its habit, this one of the few Grewias distinct from the many which look alike. It occurs as a number of slender erect 18-inch stems in patches a yard across, bare in winter except where sheltered from the frost. It has also been recorded as a shrub four feet high. In summer the stems are leafy enough to trap the wind-blown sand, so that they are usually found growing up through a slight hummock. The leaves, borne on very short stalks and measuring one and a half inches by an inch, are alternate, serrate, roughly hairy, prominently veined and dull green. The flowers have narrow white petals and are half an inch across. The fruits are a shiny dark brown, half an inch in diameter and characteristically lobed, being known in Sechuana by a name which means *the buttocks of the queen*. Only a few specimens were found in fruit, which suggests that the season was over by the time the expedition started from Molepolole (mid June).

9: Thomas T-5 (1951-1955)1959
FX10 Bushmen FX10
GiKwe

252 from the yellow liver and threw that away, but he left the liver and the surrounding fat because he meant for that to be eaten.

The baby, Nhwakwe, who owned the tortoise, came to sit by his father, leaning on Gai's leg and watching, looking smiling into the belly of the tortoise. A tortoise is such a slow tough creature that its body can function although its heart is gone. Nhwakwe put his wrists to his forehead to [524] imitate in a most charming manner the way in which the tortoise was trying to hide. Nhwake looked just like the tortoise.

Gai frowned with concentration and worked with his mouth open, pulled down at the corners. When the intestines were removed, Gai stuffed the cavity with green leaves of the ● [263] kind that "make your gums numb," say the Bushmen, added for flavor, I believe. The tortoise at this retreated far into its shell with its legs pulled in tightly, and Gai heated the doors again to curl them down. Then he packed the opening with grass and the tortoise's dung, capped it with a tsama-melon cap, and put the tortoise into the oven that was prepared for it like a shallow little grave which the tortoise just fitted, a final agony, for the tortoise once more kicked and struggled as Gai raked hot coals over it. The steam escaping from the moist flesh caused the ashes to bubble and boil, and it was over; the meat was in the pot.

Gai flung the intestines away and sat down near his wife to smoke, and I, who wished that they could at least have killed [539 776] the tortoise first, thought of the story of Pishiboro and one of his wives, an elephant. Pishiboro is one of the names of God.

One night, when Pishiboro and his younger brother were sleeping, the elephant wife took them both and rolled them between her thighs, which caused them great discomfort. The younger brother said to Pishiboro: "Let us go away now

9: Thomas T-5 (1951-1955)1959
FX10 Bushmen FX10
Kung

greatly esteemed and is gathered from the crust of the pan in moist balls. Bushmen sprinkle the surface with water in order to roll up just the first layer where the salt lies. When the salt balls dry, Bushmen crumble them into their food, preferring salt to all sweet things and honey. Once when we asked some of the Gautscha people what they called themselves they replied with this phrase: "We are a salty people, who come from a salty place."

In the dry season, two hundred people came to Gautscha and lived in the bushes at the edge of the pan. This was an enormous number for any area to support, but all had indisputable rights to be there, for either their fathers had drunk at Gautscha or they had relatives whose fathers had; by the rather complicated system, any Bushman may drink water and gather veld food wherever his parents had a right to do so, or may live with either his parents, his brothers or sisters, or his wife at any place where the relative of his choice has rights. There was water but not much food at Gautscha, and all the people got thin and very hungry and sat around their fires at night with sweat pouring from their bodies but with nothing to eat; to make matters worse, one man coming for a visit proved to be ill and gave his disease to everyone. It was a disease that caused vomiting, high fevers, chest pains, and nosebleeds of great intensity—a woman whom I tried to cure bled all one morning with blood squirting from her nostrils, pouring down over her arms and hands and dripping from her elbows, making a dark pool on the ground. The disease struck all the people, from the youngest infants to the oldest grandparents, and all the people lay for days scattered all over the ground, too ill to move. We did everything we could, of course; we provided food and medicine, firewood and water, and took turns staying up all night to nurse the people. As it happened, everyone got better within fourteen